

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL
131 CEDAR STREET
CONFERENCE ROOM L-101 LOWER LEVEL TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7, 2011
7:00 P.M.

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

CHAIRMAN THOMAS SHIELDS
COMMISSIONER DAVID MARSDEN
COMMISSIONER JAMES MAROCCHINI
COMMISSIONER GREGORY POLK
COMMISSIONER FERNANDO ROSA

ABSENT
COMMISSIONER THOMAS BOWEN
COMMISSIONER KEVIN CHICK
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL GERHART
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL LONGO
COMMISSIONER DANA WOODS

ALSO PRESENT

TOWN PLANNER
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
EDMUND MEEHAN

II. MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

Commissioner Marocchini made a motion to accept the September 7, 2011 minutes and Commissioner Marsden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2012 – postponed until January, 2012 meeting

B. 2012 COMMISSIONER MEETING DATES

Commissioner Marsden made a motion to accept the scheduled 2012 Economic Development meeting dates. Commissioner Rosa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. CONSTITUTION SQUARE – MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT SIGNAGE

Mr. Meehan noted that all five entrance “Constitution Square” signs will be erected and passed out a sample of the proposed signs to members of the commission. Commissioner Rosa suggested that this commission should permanently budget for yearly signage. Town Planner Ed Meehan reported that the commission could request the Town Council to appropriate funds for signage in the Town Center and industrial parks, an estimate of \$5,000.00 was suggested. Mr. Meehan will include this in the Commission’s fiscal year 2012-2013 budget proposal

D. BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION PROGRAMS OPPORTUNITIES – DECD

Chairman Shields reported that grant funding designated for Brownfield remediation will soon be chosen and that 1.5 million dollars is needed to demolish the former National Welding site on Fenn Road. Town Planner Ed Meehan commented that grant applications will start to be reviewed in mid January, 2012.

E. VACANT LAND – DISCUSSION OF OPEN SPACE PROTECTION

Town Planner Ed Meehan passed around a map depicting the Stanley Golf Course, New Britain and indicating which part belongs to Newington. Mr. Meehan noted that it may be designated as Department of Transportation “replacement” wetlands and could be preserved as open space for the Town of Newington, which is already 92% developed.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. STATUS OF MARKET SQUARE STREETSCAPE PROJECT

Town Planner Ed Meehan reported that the contractor is estimating the substantial complete construction of Market Square should be accomplished in 20 days.

B. NATINAL WELDING PROPERTY

SEE ABOVE

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

NONE.

VII. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Marocchini reported the Salvation Army building is read to be opened for business (at the former Bernie’s site).

Commissioner Polk mentioned a proposal to build 75 apartment units in Wethersfield with access from the Berlin Turnpike in Newington is being proposed.

Commissioner Rosa announced that there is a new State program entitled Small Business Express for loans and grant monies and to inquire of him for more information.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Rosa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Marocchini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophie Glenn
Recording Secretary